

I am writing to express my objection to the manner in which Sinclair Broadcasting is using public airwaves. They have issued a statement to the effect that they will force all of their member TV stations to air a hugely biased "smear" movie aimed at undermining John Kerry. This use of public airwaves for partisan campaigning, besides I believe being illegal, is egregious. It demonstrates that someone with enough money can buy up a bunch of TV stations and use them to influence our supposedly democratic system.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.